

1125-I1-2918 **Jennifer Wilson*** (wilsonj@newschool.edu). *The mathematical problems of Sol LeWitt.*

The work of the Conceptual artist Sol LeWitt is often compared to mathematics. There is his “subject matter”: the geometric forms and the exploration of dimension, scale, perspective, shape, and permutation. There is also the formal language: the apparent order, the economy of gesture, the reliance on notation and precise syntax. Most crucially, there is the sense that LeWitt is working out the solution to an explicit problem. In this talk we look at several problems LeWitt “posed” in his artwork and his proposed solutions. We compare works arising from “well-posed” and “ill-posed” problems and contrast the rational and irrational (his words) aspects of his artistic practice. Finally, we explore how LeWitt’s ideas can generate new art for us and for our students. (Received September 20, 2016)